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English for intermediate grades.—There has recently been much discussion in educational circles regarding proper English for intermediate grades. In the past much of the English has been of a rather mechanical form, in which the pupils manifested little interest. The late tendency is for the English of the intermediate grades to assume a practical nature which will give the pupils knowledge in various lines while they are learning the correct forms of speech. A good illustration of this type of English is presented in a recent book¹ which is especially designed for foreign-born pupils.

Miss O'Toole has so arranged her work that the content of each lesson involves some practical information that will be needed in later experience. The lessons are well adapted to the interests of pupils, and the content is chosen from the various activities of life. While the teaching of formal English may not be hindered by the subject-matter, the pupils will unconsciously acquire a knowledge of history, arithmetic, and civic, domestic, and occupational performances.

The lessons bear striking titles which are of particular interest to foreign-born pupils, such as "Arrival at Port," "Not Knowing the Law," "Keeping a Bank Account," "Mr. Thomas Spreads Consumption," "Telegrams and Night Letters," "The Police Court," and "How to Become an American Citizen."

Each lesson is presented in an interesting form accompanied by a list of exercises from which the pupils will gain much essential information and will learn to put thought into their sentences and compositions.

With each lesson some specific historical fact is stated in italics. These facts which are chronologically arranged begin with the earliest history of our country and trace the important steps to the present time, emphasizing the development of our various institutions. This historic and civic content will give teachers abundant opportunity to emphasize moral and civic training.

Lessons bearing upon the parts of speech and proper expressions are distributed throughout the book, which arrangement will prevent this form of drill work from becoming monotonous to the pupils.

As a supplementary book for the ordinary class in intermediate English the text is very suggestive. As a fundamental book for the many foreign-born classes it possesses many merits. For such classes the text will give more than training in English.

W. D. BOWMAN

How to use books and libraries.—The practice of using extensive supplementary readings in content courses requires knowledge on the part of the pupil of how to find the desired materials. In order to provide this type of information the state supervisor of school libraries in Wisconsin has prepared a book²

¹ ROSE M. O'TOOLE, *Practical English for New Americans*. Boston: D. C. Heath & Co., 1921. Pp. vi+189.

² O. S. RICE, *Lessons on the Use of Books and Libraries*. Chicago: Rand McNally & Co., 1920. Pp. xviii+178.